



Ninety-Ninth Legislature - First Session - 2005
Committee Statement
LB 160

Hearing Date: February 3, 2005

Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Introducer(s): (Jensen)

Title: Direct the Executive Board of the Legislative Council to create a task force to study county government

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

X Advanced to General File with Amendments

Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

7	Yes	Senators Brown, Fischer, Langemeier, Mines, Pahls, Schimek, Wehrbein
0	No	
0	Present, not voting	
1	Absent	Senator Burling

Proponents:

Senator Jim Jensen

Representing:

Introducer

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Larry Dix

Representing:

Nebraska Association of County Officials

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 160 creates the Task Force to Review County Government Structure and Cost to examine Nebraska's county government structure, including revenue and spending, with an emphasis on whether regional services would be more efficient.

The executive board will appoint the chairpersons of the standing committees, the chairperson of the executive board, and the Speaker of the Legislature to serve on the task force.

The task force may include other lay, professional, organizational, and governmental representatives in developing a report summarizing any recommendations for restructuring government and amending the Nebraska Constitution. The report will be presented to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2006.

The Legislative Fiscal Analyst and committee staff will serve as staff for the task force.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

The committee amendment changes the membership of the Task Force. With the amendment, the members include: four members of the Legislature; one county official from each of the three congressional districts, with at least one county-wide elected official and at least one county commissioner or supervisor; and one member of the public from each of the three congressional districts. The chair of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee and the executive director of the Nebraska Association of County Officials will serve as ex officio members.

The appointments will be made by June 15, 2005. The task force will present a report to the Legislature no later than December 15, 2005.

The committee amendment also adds an emergency clause.

Senator DiAnna R. Schimek, Chairperson